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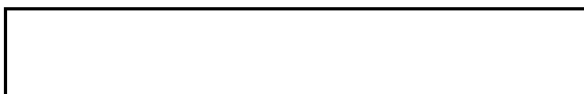
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DIA and PACOM review completed



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June 18, 1975

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State Dept. review completed

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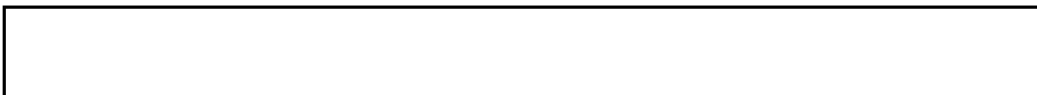
National Intelligence Bulletin

June 18, 1975

CONTENTS

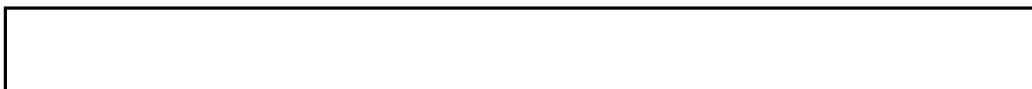
ITALY: Parties to begin
assessing election results 1

25X1



TURKEY: Ankara outlines position on
bilateral agreements with Washington 4

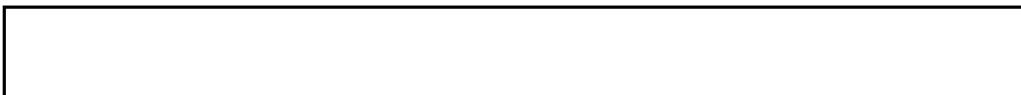
25X1



UN: US pressured to ready
Micronesia for self-government 6

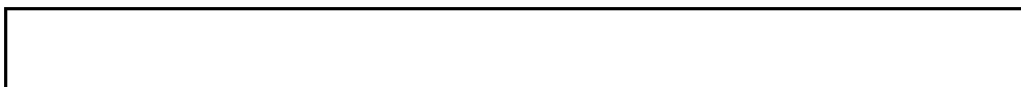
SOUTH KOREA: Seoul improving
western islands' defense 7

25X1



PORTUGAL-ROMANIA: Friendship
treaty signed 10

25X1



MEXICO: Faculty strike could
become security problem 12

CANADA: Ottawa to consult with
Bonn and Washington on defense review 13

LEBANON: Khaddam returns to assist
in formation of a cabinet 14



25X1

National Intelligence Bulletin

June 18, 1975

ITALY

The returns from Italy's provincial and municipal elections confirm the marked turn to the left registered in the regional vote.

In the provincial contests—which involved the largest part of the electorate—the Communists, Socialists, and the more extreme left together polled close to 46 percent, a 4- to 5-percent increase over the total received in the 1972 parliamentary and 1970 regional elections. The Communists again were the main winners; the Christian Democrats hit a postwar low. The Neo-Fascists and the rest of the right also declined.

The municipal count gave the Communist Party first place in such major cities outside the red belt as Milan, Naples, and Venice, but Communist participation in the municipal government looks possible only in Venice. The Communists augmented their positions in such strongholds as Florence and Bologna. In other cities where municipal elections were not held—Rome and Genoa, for example—the regional returns show the Communists in first place.

The results reinforce the Socialist Party's position as the Christian Democrats' most important partner. The nationwide decline of the Liberal Party has at the local level deprived Christian Democrats of the possibility of centrist coalitions in many localities, an option they previously have used to moderate Socialist demands. The Socialists have emerged in some places with the choice of joining the Christian Democrats in a center-left government or the Communists in "frontist" administrations.

The Socialists are likely to behave at the national level as though the parliamentary balance had shifted in their favor. The Christian Democrats now appear to have two alternatives: either reach an agreement with the Socialists on the terms for a new center-left government or move toward early national elections. Although renewing the coalition seems the more likely course, many difficulties lie along the way.

Not the least of these difficulties is the dissent within each party over how to deal with the other. Socialist leader De Martino seems inclined to try to use his new leverage to resume participation in the government on improved terms. Some influential Socialists, however, will argue against doing so, now that the Communists' opposition status has proved more profitable at the polls than the Socialists' participation in the government with the Christian Democrats.

National Intelligence Bulletin

June 18, 1975

The Christian Democrats for their part, probably face a major internal battle over the party's leadership and policies. Party chief Fanfani—on whom both the Communists and Socialists centered their campaign attacks—will almost certainly be ousted. The new leader will then face the task of drawing a consensus from the party factions—whose views contrast sharply—over how to stop the erosion of Christian Democratic appeal.

Political leaders, including the Communists, have still not gone beyond their initial cautious comments on what amounts to the largest shift in Italian voting patterns since 1948. Serious assessment of the election results will lead off tomorrow with a meeting of the Christian Democrats' party directorate.



25X1

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027800010030-0

Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027800010030-0

National Intelligence Bulletin

June 18, 1975

TURKEY

The Turkish government yesterday delivered a note to the US embassy in Ankara outlining its position on existing bilateral agreements with the US concerning common defense installations.

The note, in effect, provides a 30-day grace period—until July 17—for the US to lift its embargo. If action is not taken during this time, Ankara will consider its agreement with the US on military facilities no longer in force. Negotiations will then be necessary for new agreements that will reflect the changed relationship.

Foreign Minister Caglayangil told the press that, while the grace period provides time for the embargo to be lifted, Turkish officials in Washington have taken soundings and are not optimistic. Caglayangil confirmed that the status of US bases would remain unchanged during the 30-day period.

The foreign minister noted, however, that once discussions begin—at the “expert” level—US installations will be brought under a provisional status. He said this provisional framework will determine which installations will continue to operate, implying that some US bases may be closed pending the outcome of the negotiations.

Yesterday’s note represents something of a retreat by Ankara from earlier hints that Prime Minister Demirel was prepared to take strong retaliatory action and might even consider withdrawal from NATO’s military structure. Demirel probably hoped to bring pressure on the US to change its policy on the arms embargo and to build up his role as defender of Turkey’s national interests. Ankara is clearly still reluctant to sever military ties with the US.

The note made no reference to NATO, and a subsequent public statement by Caglayangil emphasized that whatever the ultimate decision on the arms embargo and US facilities, the Turks will try to avoid any serious repercussions in their relations with the US on other matters. Within a few hours after the foreign minister’s statement, opposition leader Bulent Ecevit issued a press release criticizing the softness of the government’s response to the arms embargo.

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National Intelligence Bulletin

June 18, 1975

25X1

UN

Pressures are mounting on the US to speed up preparation of the inhabitants of Micronesia for eventual self-government.

At the recently concluded session of the UN Trusteeship Council, a number of participants said they were dissatisfied with the pace of economic development and progress toward self-government in the three island groups—the Carolines, Marianas, and Marshalls—administered for the UN by the US as a strategic trust territory.

The Marianas wish to become a commonwealth of the US, instead of joining the free association compact currently planned by the other two archipelagos when the US trusteeship over the islands is terminated in the early 1980s. This splitting up of the trust territory, although now implicitly accepted by the Trusteeship Council, has been criticized particularly by the Soviets, who question possible US strategic intentions in the area.

The Marianas voted yesterday to accept the commonwealth status that has been negotiated with the US. The Trusteeship Council sent three of its members to observe the referendum.

The focus of UN deliberations on the US trusteeship has so far remained within the Trusteeship Council. Papua New Guinea is expected to receive its independence from Australia later this year, and this will leave the US-administered territories the last remaining trusteeship. The issue over the territories may thus offer an increasingly attractive propaganda target in other, more political UN forums such as the Decolonization Committee and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

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National Intelligence Bulletin

June 18, 1975

SOUTH KOREA

Seoul is taking steps to improve the defenses of the five western islands near the Northern Limit Line.

The US command in Korea reports that some South Korean forces on the islands are in a heightened state of alert and that passive defenses, such as beach obstacles and bunkers, are being strengthened. Additional field and antiaircraft artillery pieces also are being sent to the islands, but there apparently has been no significant increase in the 3,000 or so troops who defend them.

These measures probably stem from the chief of naval operations' inspection tour in April. At that time, the naval chief reportedly expressed concern over the islands' defenses, particularly noting the number of defective artillery pieces and recommending that they be replaced.

On a number of occasions recently, South Korean officials, including President Pak, have expressed both concern over the possibility of a surprise North Korean attack against one or more of the islands and some reservations regarding the extent of the US defense commitments with regard to the islands.

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

National Intelligence Bulletin

June 18, 1975

PORTUGAL-ROMANIA

Portugal and Romania signed the first friendship treaty between a NATO and a Warsaw Pact country during the visit to Bucharest of President Costa Gomes from June 13 to 16. President Ceausescu heralded the treaty as "the first of its kind between friendly countries that belong to different military blocs."

The 13-article document stresses national independence, sovereignty, and similarities between the policies of the signatories and the Third World. It bears a striking resemblance to the treaty signed in late May between Bucharest and Pyongyang, when North Korean party boss Kim Il-song visited Romania.

The final communique summarizing the talks points out that Romania and Portugal, as developing nations, have much in common. It also stresses the usual themes of the nonaligned countries—the need to overcome the gap between developed and developing nations, concern over the pace of de-colonization, and the desirability of a new political and economic order in international relations.

The two sides signed long-term trade, economic, technical, and scientific agreements. In addition, they agreed to establish a joint commission to develop new forms of economic and industrial cooperation.

On the heels of Costa Gomes' visit—on June 17—Romanian chief of staff Colonel-General Coman began a six-day visit to Portugal. Coman's trip takes place four months after General Fabiao, his Portuguese counterpart, visited Romania. Fabiao later spoke enthusiastically about his trip and praised the civic action role of the army in Romanian society.

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Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00975A027800010030-0

National Intelligence BulletinJune 18, 1975



25X1

MEXICO

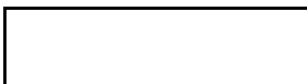
A strike by faculty members that began on June 16 at the sprawling National Autonomous University in Mexico City could turn into a serious security problem for the government. With the International Women's Year Conference opening on June 19, officials are worried that the strikers and their supporters among the students will use the presence of the foreign visitors to press their demands for higher wages.

Although there has not yet been any indication that the strikers intend to provoke the government into using force, large, violent demonstrations are possible on this volatile campus. Students have erected barricades on roads leading to the campus and most classes have been halted. Should demonstrations get out of hand, the government would find it embarrassing to use force during the conference. Officials have been nervous about security for the conclave itself for some time.

Presidential politics could also be affected. If force is used, Secretary of Government Moya, the leading presidential aspirant, could be subject to criticism. His office is charged with maintaining internal security.



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National Intelligence BulletinJune 18, 1975

CANADA

Ottawa has proposed separate bilateral consultations be initiated next week in Brussels with both West Germany and the US on Canada's current defense review. A Canadian official has said that positive responses to the request for consultation are important to the government's timetable for subsequent cabinet consideration. There is no indication when Ottawa intends to undertake full consultation with the Alliance.

While the review is comprehensive, the subject of the proposed talks will be limited to Canada's military contribution to Europe. The issue of the Canadian force mix in Europe—a nearly 5,000-man contingent—has caused great international concern. Questions were raised in Parliament and during the recent ministerial and summit meetings in NATO after press reports suggested a plan was afoot to substitute an all-air commitment for the present air-ground mix. Both options are apparently being considered in the review, as well as a third—an all - ground force contingent.

Bonn and London have come down hard against any reduction in ground forces prior to an MBFR agreement. There are strong advocates of NATO in Ottawa who also recognize the psychological disadvantage of ground-force retrenchment at this time, despite any increases in other forces to balance the cut.

The Canadian government, however, is faced with force composition decisions that must be viewed with an eye on materiel modernization requirements and budget restraints. Ottawa has promised to provide Bonn with an outline statement this week of alternatives under consideration; a similar paper will probably be made available to the US.

25X1

National Intelligence Bulletin

June 18, 1975

LEBANON

Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam arrived in Beirut on June 16 to join the prolonged consultations on the formation of a Lebanese cabinet. During a visit to Beirut three weeks ago, Khaddam played a central role in negotiating the resignation of the military cabinet and the designation of Rashid Karami as prime minister.

Khaddam's initiative probably reflects Damascus' apprehension that support for Karami in Lebanon may be eroding and that the Prime Minister may be forced to abandon his efforts to assemble a government. Syria is widely known to have pressed President Franjiah to appoint Karami and would be embarrassed to see him fail.

Khaddam presumably is urging Franjiah to elicit concessions from the right-wing Phalangists, who are still insisting that they be included in the new cabinet. In return, Khaddam may be assuring Franjiah that Syria is attempting to reign in Lebanese socialist leader Kamal Jumblatt, who traveled to Damascus for consultations yesterday.

If Karami were to give up, Franjiah probably would feel justified in turning again to a weak Muslim politician whom he could dominate more easily. Syria's interest would not be served by the appointment of such a prime minister, or by the renewed fighting that probably would accompany Karami's failure.

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